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## Headquarters 92D BOMBARDMENT WING, HEAVY United States Air Force Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington

28 January 1958

Mr. Richard Bissell 3401 Newark NW Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. B:

Just a short line today to let you know I am well and quite satisfied. As you know, my boss, Colonel Neely, was killed in the early part of December, so from then until just this past week I was the acting Wing Commander here at Fairchild. A friend of mine, Colonel Don Hillman, came in last week and is now the Wing Commander and I have reverted to the Deputy slot.

Specifically, I wrote to check on the awards I recommended for people of my unit. I would like to know if you can tell me what the status of these awards are and what their future might be. I am sure you will be advised that security implications preclude early awards, which is poppycock to my way of thinking. Our cover was good and thorough, and it is common knowledge throughout the Air Force that I was working with the Weather Research organization and so were the people I had taken with me; so there would be no violation of security in my mind.

I do not recall whether or not I made any specific recommendations for Colonel Perkins. I believe I did not, since he was still in the project. However, I would like to be assured that he will not be forgotten, since he was an immensely valuable aid to me in the originating days and in our early operations. I recommend that he be considered for the Legion of Merit, not only for his activities under my command, but also for those activities that he undoubtedly is performing in his usual outstanding manner now.

I would appreciate greatly if you could give these awards some serious consideration for early presentation, and of course let me know your intentions in this regard.

Colonel, USAF
Deputy Commander

STATINTL

NRO and USAF review(s) completed.